

F O O T S T E P

TO THE

FRENCH LANGUAGE;

CONTAINING

Such OBSERVATIONS as will facilitate the Acquisition of it,
And render its Study less disgusting to Beginners :

OR,

A SHORT INTRODUCTION

To a WORK (now in the Press), entitled

THE COMPLETE SYSTEM OF THE *FRENCH LANGUAGE.*

By NICHOLAS SALMON.

L O N D O N :

Printed for the AUTHOR; and sold by Mr. ELMSLEY, in the Strand; Mr. HOOKHAM, New Bond-Street; and
Mr. RICHARDSON, under the Royal-Exchange.

M. DCC. LXXXVII.

Entered at Stationers Hall.

FRENCH TESTS

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OR
INTRODUCTION

By



THE COMPLETE SYSTEM OF THE FRENCH LANGUAGE

By NICHOLAS SALMON

LONDON: Printed by J. DODD, at the Theatre-François, in the Strand, 1765.
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T O T H E P U B L I C.

"IT were to be wished," says the celebrated *Rollin* in his treatise on the Belles-lettres, "that a compendious Grammar, containing nothing but the most necessary rules and reflections, were written for young beginners solely." Indeed, experience has convinced me, that a master of languages, or of any art which he would teach with advantage, should not, at first, be too full of precepts, but confine himself to a short and easy method, lest he should discourage the pupil whose improvement he has at heart.

Now, with respect to languages, the main point is, obviously, to bring the pupil, by frequent use, to a ready application of a few general rules. The following pages contain those general rules, digested in such a manner, that the beginner, being imperceptibly prepared for the delicacies and irregularities of the French language, may afterwards take a pleasure in a minute examination of that which he has already practised without observing it.

The rules here laid down are so comprehensive as to admit of very few exceptions. They will be sufficient to enable the pupil to go through any of the exercise-books already published; and that more pleasantly than if he were to consult the authors of them, whose rules are often so worded as to be liable to numberless exceptions.

It

* The Author returns his respectful thanks to his numerous Subscribers for the liberal encouragement they have given to his undertaking. As he has spared no pains in the execution of the work, he was desirous that it should not suffer by a negligent impression. In this view he applied to the Printer of whom Mr. LINGUET, in his *Annales*, says "Je saisis, avec empressement, l'occasion de lui rendre un hommage public d'admiration & de reconnaissance. Il se nomme *Spilbury*."—If the impression, partly from the nature of the work, and partly from the Printer's other avocations, has not gone on so rapidly as the Subscribers might expect, the Author,

It is not however my intention to depreciate what others have done: they have their merit, and I am too much indebted to them ever to entertain such an idea. I only beg leave to say, that, being ambitious of distinguishing myself in my profession, I have made it my constant endeavour to improve upon their works; aiming, above all, at generalising, every where, the objects in view. I now respectfully offer to the public the fruit of sixteen years' inquiry; and flatter myself I shall be allowed to have laboured not entirely in vain.

Dr. *Watts*, in his treatise on the mind, thus expresses himself on the point in question: "After we are grown well acquainted with a *short System or compendium* of a science, which is written in the plainest and most simple manner, it is then proper to read a *larger regular treatise* on that subject." The following sheets, I think, comprise, with regard to French, that sort of *Compendium* to which this ingenious author alludes; and *The complete System of the French Language*, the publication of which will shortly take place, I presume will form the *larger regular treatise*.* I hope the indulgent reader will not deem it impertinent in me, that, deviating from the custom established in addresses of this sort, I take the liberty to give him a few hints of what this larger work is to contain.

In

relying on their indulgence, entreats them to balance the inconvenience of the delay against the general accuracy with which he presumes they will find the impression executed. He flatters himself that he shall be able to publish the Volume in two months, or sooner; and he requests of those Gentlemen and Ladies who may wish to become Subscribers to it, that they would send their names to Mr. ELMSLEY, in the Strand; Mr. BLOKHAM, New Bond-Street; or Mr. RICHARDSON, under the Royal-Exchange.—The subscription-money is Five Shillings.

In *The complete System of the French Language* I undertake to remove every difficulty, which, in the course of my practice, I have found to impede the progress of the English pupil; to show the whole mechanism of the language, to point out its delicacies, and display its beauties: and, as I have frequent occasion to introduce new observations (such, I mean, as the Grammarians who have gone before me have not made), I take care to prove that I have therein strictly adhered to the genius of the language I treat of, and that I have formed those observations on passages selected from the best French Authors.

The grammatical relation of words one to another, and the nice order which must be attended to in the construction of sentences, will be found fully elucidated. Above all, a great difficulty will be removed; a difficulty, which, to foreigners, has been hitherto unfurmountable, viz. that of distinguishing when an English past tense should, in narrative, be expressed in French by the *imperfect*, when by the *preterite*, when by the *compound of the present*, and when merely by the *present*.

A copious *Alphabetical list of the French Adjectives* presents those which, in one sense, require to be placed before their Nouns, and, in another sense, after them. Those Adjectives are also pointed out which must always follow their Nouns; nor are those omitted which may indiscriminately come either before or after them, and for which we are merely to consult the ear and measure, or to consider the style in which we write or speak.

Another *Alphabetical List*, of every word and expression which may govern another, shows what Preposition must be used in French before the *person*, the *thing*, and the *infinitive*; when the *subjunctive* is to come in, and when indifferently the *indicative* or the *subjunctive*. For instance, when going to use the words *craindre*, *fâché*, *s'opposer*, &c. the pupil, on looking for them in the *Alphabetical List of Governments*, will find:

Craindre (to fear) *une personne*, or *une chose de la part d'une personne*, *de faire*, or *qu'on ne fasse*, or *qu'on fera*.

Fâché (angry, sorry) *contre une personne*, *d'une chose*, *de faire*, or *qu'on fasse*, or *de ce qu'on fait*.

S'opposer

S'opposer (to oppose) *à une personne*, or *à une chose*, or *à ce qu'on fasse*.

Former Grammarians have been silent on the manner of *pronouncing whole sentences*. Wishing to lessen the difficulties which an Englishman has to encounter, before his ear can be formed to the volubility of French conversation, I have searched for the cause, and have it now in my power to give such directions as will enable the pupil soon to speak and read French with the proper accent; whereby he cannot fail, when mixing in French circles, to understand what is said. To this end, I not only explain when and how words are to be linked together, either by founding a final consonant upon an initial vowel, or by joining a final sound with the next; but point out when and how that which (if taken singly) would form a syllable, becomes susceptible of elision, both in conversation, and in reading works in a familiar style.

For instance: the pupil is informed why, *Je ne sais ce qu'il a* is to be pronounced as one word of four syllables, letting only the first *e* keep its slender guttural sound, *Jen'-sais'-kil-a*; and why *C'est ce que je vous demanderois*, though containing seven words and nine syllables, will, in conversation, be uttered, by every person who pronounces French fluently and properly, like a single word of five syllables (wherein the *e* in *que* keeps its slender guttural sound), and as if it were spelt: *Ces'-kej'-voud'-mand'-ray*; &c. Some Grammarians have indeed said, that the unaccented *e* was often to be silent; but not one of them has even pretended to show when and why it became so; which point is determined, in my Treatise, by a simple rule which will stand good in all cases.

As public utility ought to be the sole object of every author, I will not conclude without engaging, that any hint, which may contribute to the future improvement of this work, shall be faithfully attended to by him who is the Public's

Devoted Servant,

N. Salmon.

August 25, 1787.

DEFINITE and UNIVERSAL ARTICLE. (1)

THE, any whatever, *le* (m.), *la* (f.), *les* (pl.) } *le* and *la* } before a vowel { *l'*
Of the, of any, &c. *du*, *de la*, *des* } *du* and *de la* } not aspirate, or { *de l'*
To the, to any, &c. *au*, *à la*, *aux* } *au* and *à la* } *b* mute, become { *à l'*

N. B. We can use neither *de* nor *à* before *le* or *les*.

PARTITIVE ARTICLES.

Some, or any, in } *du* (m.), *de la* (f.), *des* (pl.); } to become, all three, *de* before a
the sense of part of, } real Adjective. *

Of some, of any, &c. *de* always, let the Noun be masculine, feminine, or plural.

To some, to any, &c. *à du*, *à de la*, *à des*; to become, all three, *à de* before a real Adjective.

Examples.

Fetch me the paper, ink, pens, and sealing-wax.—Allez me chercher le papier, l'encre, les plumes, & la cire. (2)

I speak not only of the uncle and aunt, but of the nephew and nieces.—Je parle non-seulement de l'oncle & de la tante, mais du neveu & des nièces.

Write to the officers, if you will not apply to the brother or sister.—Ecrivez aux officiers, si vous ne voulez pas vous adresser au frère ou à la sœur.

It is virtue, and not money, which makes man happy. (3)—C'est la vertu, & non pas l'argent, qui rend l'homme heureux.

After having spoken of France, he told me that you had been in Spain, and that your mother was returned from Italy.—Après avoir parlé de la France, il me dit que vous aviez été en Espagne, & que votre mère étoit revenue d'Italie.

POSSESSIVE

(1) As Adjectives are, as well as Articles and Pronouns, to agree, both in gender and number, with their Nouns, observe, that the feminine of Adjectives is generally formed by adding *e* mute to those which do not already end in *e* mute; these being common to both the masculine and the feminine (the only two genders which the French language knows). However, the final *e* becomes *que* (except in *blanc*, *franc*, and *sec*, wherein it changes into *che*); the final *f* becomes *ve*; the final *an*, *ien*, *yen*, and *on*, will have the *n* doubled before *e* mute is added; *et* and *ot* also will have the *r* doubled before *e* mute is added (except in *complet*, *discret*, *débat*, *inquiet*, *prêt*, and *secrét*); the final *eur* and *eux* generally change into *use*; and

The Adjectives *beau*, *fou*, *mou*, *nouveau*, and *vieux*, falling immediately upon a Noun or an Adjective beginning with a vowel not aspirate, or with *b* mute, generally become *bel*, *fol*, *mol*, *nouvel*, and *vieil*, whence their feminine is formed by doubling the *l* before *e* mute is added.

The Adjectives *bas*, *bénin*, *crud*, *doux*, *épais*, *exprès*, *favori*, *faux*, *frail*, *gentil*, *gras*, become - - *basse*, *bénigne*, *crue*, *douce*, *épaisse*, *expresse*, *favorite*, *fausse*, *frêle*, *gentille*, *grasse*.

The Adjectives *gros*, *jaloux*, *las*, *long*, *malin*, *mat*, *nud*, *roux*, *sec*, *tiers*, *verd*, become - - *grosse*, *jalouse*, *lasse*, *longue*, *maligne*, *matte*, *nue*, *roussé*, *terce*, *verte*.

And, as to the plural of Nouns and Adjectives, it is generally formed, for the masculine, by adding *s* to them; except those ending in *s*, or *x*, or *z*, which remain the same. However, those in *au*, *eu* or *ou*, and *ou*, generally take *n* instead of *s*; those in *al* or *ail* generally change into *aux*; and those in *nt* either change the *t* into *s*, or take *s* after the *t*.

For

NUMERAL or INDEFINITE ARTICLE.

A or an, *un*, (m.), *une* (f.); the plural of which is *des* (some), to become *de* before a real Adjective. *

Of a, of an, *d'un*, *d'une*; the plural of which is always *de*, or *d'* before a vowel not aspirate or *b* mute.

To a, to an, *à un*, *à une*; the plural of which is *à des*, to become *à de* before a real Adjective.

* When an Adjective comes immediately with its Noun, it is a Proper Adjective; when it merely relates to a preceding Noun, it is a Relative Adjective; and when it stands both for itself and for the Noun not expressed, it is a Substantive Adjective, but not a real Adjective.

Du, *de la*, or *des*, is generally suppressed after an expression, either exclusive or implying quantity, which requires *de* before the Noun it affects; because we cannot use *du*, *de la*, *des*, along with *de*.

Examples.

Besides a father-in-law and a mother-in-law, he has friends; and these are good friends.—Outre un beau-père & une belle-mère, il a des amis, & ce sont de bons amis.

I think he has no grand father now.—Je crois qu'il n'a plus de grand-père.

Send me some bread; and let it be excellent bread.—Envoyez moi du pain; & que ce soit d'excellent pain.

He has not any money; and I think he has but few friends.—Il n'a point d'argent; & je pense qu'il a peu d'amis.

You will find her full of beauty and sense.—Vous la trouverez remplie de beauté & de bon sens.

A

RELATIVE

For the feminine plural; *e* only is to be added to the feminine termination.

Observe that - - *aïeul*, *ciel*, *loi*, *œil*, *gentil-homme*, *tout*, *monseigneur*, *madame*, &c. generally become - - *aïeux*, *cieux*, *loix*, *yeux*, *gentils-hommes*, *tous*, *messieurs*, *mesdames*, &c.

(2) When several Nouns are linked together by enumeration, conjunctively or disjunctively, the Article (or the equivalent to the Article) which is to precede the first, must, in general, be repeated before every one of those Nouns which belong to the enumeration: nay, if the first Noun is preceded by *de*, or *à*, or *en*, the other Nouns must generally be preceded by the same, unless they should be governed by different expressions.

(3) When an English Noun, coming without any Article (or some word equivalent to an Article) is neither in the sense of *a* or *an*, nor in that of *some*, this Noun must generally be rendered in French with the Article *le*, through its variations, or with something equivalent to it; except proper names of divinities, persons, times, cities, towns, villages, boroughs, hamlets, days, and months, when they are not particularised; except also such names of kingdoms, republics, countries, provinces, and islands, as have their capital called by the same name, when also they are not particularised.

The Noun generally comes in without any Article, when, with a Preposition, it forms a kind of Adverb; or when, being used instead of an Adjective, it serves to particularise another Noun, or any Pronoun except *ce*. Hence it is we say: Une montre d'or (a gold watch); Il est homme de bon sens, or C'est un homme de bon sens (he is a man of sense); Je naquis à Bar-le-duc, ville de Lorraine (I was born at Bar-le-duc, a city of Lorraine); Je vous écouterai avec patience (I will listen to you with patience); &c.

POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES, when proper, that is, with a Noun or Number to be expressed after, are equivalent to Articles.

My or my own, . . .	mon (m.), ma (f.), mes (pl.),	} Instead of <i>ma, ta, sa</i> , we use <i>mon, ton, son</i> , before a vowel not aspirate, or <i>h</i> mute, though the Noun should be feminine.
Thy, &c.	ton, ta, tes,	
His, her, its, one's, . . .	son, sa, ses,	
Our or our own, . . .	notre, (m. & f.) nos,	
Your, &c.	votre, vos,	
Their, &c.	leur, leurs,	

N. B. Possessive Adjectives are to agree with the Noun possessed.

Examples.

Her husband is a very learned man.—*Son mari est un homme très-instruit.* (Not *sa mari*, as the Noun *mari* is masculine).

His amiable wife was in her room.—*Son aimable épouse étoit dans sa chambre.* (*Aimable*, beginning with a vowel, we cannot use *sa*).

We often talk of your relations.—*Nous parlons souvent de vos parents.*

Their general was killed on the spot.—*Leur général fut tué sur la place.*

Yours are lovely children.—*Vos enfans sont aimables.*

DEMONSTRATIVE ADJECTIVES, with a Noun, or Number, or Adjective, to be expressed after, are equivalent to Articles.

This or that, . . . *ce* (m.), to become *cet* before a vowel not aspirate, or *h* mute, and *cette* for the feminine.

These or these, . . . *ces* always, if the Noun can be made plural.

N. B. We often add *ci* (here) to the Noun, Number, or Adjective, preceded by *this* or *these*; and *là* (there) to the Noun, Number, or Adjective, preceded by *that* or *those*; especially when we want to point to a distinction, contrast, or opposition of objects.

Examples.

Lend me *that* book, or *these* pamphlets.—*Prêtez-moi ce livre-là, ou ces brochures-ci.*

That bird of yours will never sing so well as *these* two.—*Cet oiseau que vous avez ne chantera jamais si bien que ces deux-ci.*

How did you know *that* lady?—*Comment avez-vous connu cette dame?*

This, standing for something pointed to, but unnamed, or for events { *ceci*.
That, } not expressed by a Noun, { *cela*.

Give me *that* (thing unnamed), and take *this* (thing unnamed).—*Donnez-moi cela, & prenez ceci.*

He did not come here yesterday; *that* surprises me.—*Il ne vint point hier; cela me surprend* (or *ce qui me surprend*).

C'est.

RELATIVE POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES, that is, without a Noun or Number to be expressed after.

Mine, . . .	le mien (m.), la mienne (f.), les miens (m. pl.), les miennes (f. pl.),	or à moi.
Thine, . . .	le tien, la tienne, les tiens, les tiennes,	or à toi.
His, hers, &c. le sien, la sienne, les siens, les siennes,		or à lui (m.), à elle (f.), à soi (indeterminate.).
Ours, . . .	le nôtre, la nôtre, les nôtres, (m. & f. pl.)	or à nous.
Yours, . . .	le vôtre, la vôtre, les vôtres,	or à vous.
Theirs, . . .	le leur, la leur, les leurs,	or à eux (m.), à elles (f.)

* Governed by a tense of *to be*, in the sense of *to belong to*.

Examples.

This is your hat, that is mine.—*Voici votre chapeau, voilà le mien* (not *voilà mien*).

You have spoken of my horse; now I will say something of yours.—*Vous avez parlé de mon cheval; actuellement je dirai quelque chose du vôtre.* (See the N.B. after the Definite Article).

Whose house is that?—It is mine. *A qui est cette maison-là?—Elle est à moi, or C'est à moi.*

RELATIVE DEMONSTRATIVE ADJECTIVES, without an Adjective or Number after them.

This, These, That, Those, That of, Those of, That which, Those which,	} The Noun, pointed to by the demonstrative Adjective, being left unexpressed,	celui-ci (m.), ceux-ci, celui-là, ceux-là, celui de, ceux de, celui qui, &c. ceux qui, &c.	celle-ci (f.), celles-ci, celle-là, celles-là, celle de, celles de, celle qui, &c. celles qui, &c.	} which mean also the latter, which mean also the former, which often stand for the Engl. Possess. case, which mean also [the one which].

Examples.

This garden is mine, that is your cousin's.—*Ce jardin-ci est à moi, celui-là est à votre cousin.*

Take these papers, and give me those.—*Prenez ces papiers-ci, & donnez moi ceux-là.*

What fine horses your father's are!—*Les beaux chevaux que ceux de votre père!*

He who, him who, &c. } may often be rendered by { *celui qui, &c.*
 She who, her who, &c. } *celle qui, &c.*
 They who, those who, &c. } *ceux qui, &c. celles qui, &c.*

If the conjunctive Pronoun *who*, &c. is to be placed after the inference, *là* is annexed to *celui, celle, ceux, celles*. This happens in speaking universally.

Those who seem to be happy, are not always so.—*Ceux qui paroissent être heureux, ne le sont pas toujours; or, Ceux-là ne sont pas toujours heureux, qui paroissent l'être.*

To

C'est, &c. } is often used, when *it is, he is, she is, this is, that is, &c.*
Ce sont, &c. } a Noun or Pronoun }
 } is to follow, to express } *they are, these are, those are; and even it is,*
 } before a plural of the third person.

Is this (or, Is that) your brother?—It is he. Est-ce là votre frère?—C'est lui ; or, Ce l'est.
Are these (or, Are those) your nieces?—It is they (or, They are). Sont-ce là vos nièces?—Ce les sont ; or, Ce sont elles.

DISTRIBUTIVE ADJECTIVES, when PROPER ADJECTIVES.

Every, Each, } falling upon a Noun, } *chaque*, which will have every thing referring to it
 } be in the singular.

Every country has its customs.—Chaque pays a ses usages.

He gave each soldier two guineas.—Il donna deux guinées à chaque soldat.

However, we say, *Tout le monde* (every body), *tous les jours* (every day), *toutes les semaines* (every week), *tous les quinze jours* (every fortnight), *tous les deux jours* (every other day), *tous les six mois* (every six months), &c.

QUELQUE, used as a PROPER ADJECTIVE.

We use *quelque* as an equivalent to an Article, to express *some*, in the diminutive sense of *a little*; and the plural *quelques*, to express *some*, in the diminutive sense of *a few*. Observe, that if *some* or *a few* precedes *of* or *among*, the Adjective must be used relatively.

I have indeed some money, but not enough to purchase an estate like that.—J'ai bien quelqu'argent, mais je n'en ai pas assez pour acheter un bien comme celui-là.

Some historian would have spoken of it.—Quelqu'historien en auroit parlé.

I have some idea of having seen him before.—J'ai quelqu'idée de l'avoir vu auparavant.

He has a few friends.—Il a quelques amis.

ADVERBS OF QUANTITY, which, with the Partitive Article *de* used before the Noun affected by them, become equivalent to indeterminate Adjectives, and which, when used relatively, require *en* to come in with the Verb, instead of the Noun and *de*.

Combien de, - - how much, or how many.
Que de, - - how much, how many, in exclamations.
Tant de, - - so much, so many, } and their correspondent *que de, as.*
Autant de, - - as much, as many, }
Plus de, - - more, } and their correspondent *que de, than.*
Moins de, - - less, fewer, }
Peu de, - - but little, but few.

Beaucoup de, - - much, many; instead of which we may use *bien du, bien de la, bien des*, to become, all three, *bien de* before an Adjective.

How many horses has he?—He has not many. Combien a-t-il de chevaux?—Il n'en a pas beaucoup.

DISJUNCTIVE

To what lady are you now writing?—To her whom we met this day week. A quelle dame écrivez-vous là?—A celle que nous rencontrâmes il y a aujourd'hui huit jours.

He who cannot keep a secret, is incapable of governing.—Celui qui (or only qui, whoever) ne saurait garder un secret, est incapable de gouverner; or, Celui-là est incapable de gouverner, qui ne saurait garder un secret; or, C'est être incapable de gouverner, que de ne pouvoir garder un secret.

DISTRIBUTIVE ADJECTIVES, when RELATIVE or SUBSTANTIVE.

Every one, Each, } before *of*, or the Noun being left } *chacun* (m.), *chacune* (f.).
 } understood,

These books must be put again each in its place.—Il faut remettre ces livres-là, chacun à sa place.

Every one of the ladies had a different dress.—Chacune des dames avait une parure différente.

Every one talks of it.—Chacun (or, Tout le monde) en parle.

QUELQUE, used as a RELATIVE or SUBSTANTIVE ADJECTIVE.

When *some* is either a relative or substantive Adjective, in the sense of *a little*, it is *un peu*; when in the sense of *some one* or *one out of several*, it is *quelqu'un* (m.), *quelqu'une* (f.); and when in the sense of *a few* or *a few of them*, it may be *quelques-uns* (m.), *quelques-unes* (f.).

Is there any ink in the bottle?—Yes, there is some (meaning a little). Y a-t-il de l'encre dans la bouteille?—Oui, il y en a un peu.

Four of his sisters promised me to come; sure some one will come.—Quatre de ses sœurs m'ont promis de venir; il en viendra sûrement quelqu'une.

Among the news he told, there are some that are true.—Entre les nouvelles qu'il a débitées, il y en a quelques-unes de vraies. (De before vraies means here which are).

NEGATIVE and EXCLUSIVE EXPRESSIONS so be used (with *ne*, if a Verb comes with them) as Adverbs of quantity are; that is, with *de* before the Noun affected by them, and with *en*, when used relatively (de and the Noun being left un-repeated).

Point de, or pas de, - - no, not any, not a, &c.
Jamais de, - - never a, never any, &c.
Plus de, - - no longer a, no longer any,
Sorte de, - - not any, no sort of.
Guère de, - - but little, but few, hardly any.

He has no flowers in his garden.—I never saw any there. Il n'a point de fleurs dans son jardin.—Je n'y en ai jamais vu.

There are but few people of your opinion.—Il n'y a guère de gens de votre avis.

CONJUNCTIVE

DISJUNCTIVE PERSONAL PRONOUNS for all Cases. (1)

Moi, - - -	I, me, myself (s).
Toi, - - -	thou, thee, thyself.
Lui (m.), -	he, him, himself, it, itself, } speaking of persons, animals, plants, trees,
Elle (f.), -	she, her, herself, it, itself, } or things personified.
Soi, - - -	one's self, himself, herself, itself, speaking of persons indeterminately, or of things not personified.
Nous, - - -	we, us, ourselves.
Vous, - - -	you or ye, yourself, yourselves.
Eux (m.), -	} they, them, themselves.
Elles (f.), -	

The above personal Pronouns are to be used after a Preposition, or when any Noun, Adjective, or expression, is to be thrown in between the Pronoun and the Verb; or when they come without a Verb after them; or when they are used in an enumerating or distributive manner; as also when they are used exclamatively.

Examples.

I will do it for him.—Je le ferai pour lui.

Who told you so?—He. Qui est-ce qui vous l'a dit?—Lui.

They alone know and respect virtue.—Eux seuls connoissent & respectent la vertu.

You will be there sooner than he.—Vous y serez plutôt que lui.

I see him again! No, never.—Moi, le revoir! (Qui, moi le revoir! or, Le revoir, moi! or, Moi, je le reverrois! or, je le reverrois, moi!) Non, de ma vie.

He and I know not what to do.—Lui & moi, nous ne savons que faire.

You and they are to come there.—Vous devez y venir, vous & eux.

Both she and he are ashamed of it.—Elle & lui en sont honteux; or, Ils en sont honteux, elle & lui.

CONJUNCTIVE PERSONAL PRONOUNS for the Nominative.

Je (s), tu, il (m.), elle (f.), on, —	nous, vous, ils (m.), elles (f.).
I, thou, he, it, she, it, one, people, &c. —	we, you, ye, they.

CONJUNCTIVE

THE CASES.

(1) What comes in answer to the question *who?* or *what?* asked before a Verb, is called the *Nominative case*, as it names the agent or subject.

What comes in answer to the question *what?* asked after a Verb, or to the question *whom?* if nothing comes in answer to *what?* is called the *Accusative case*, or the *Direct case*. This names the object without any Preposition before it.

A Noun or Pronoun affected, in French, by the Preposition *à* (to, &c.), is said to be in the *Dative case*. This Preposition is often suppressed before a Pronoun, when we can give it a *dative form*.

A Noun or Pronoun affected, in French, by the Preposition *de* (of, from, &c.) is said to be in the *Genitive or Ablative case*. This Preposition also is often suppressed before a Pronoun, when we can give it a *genitive form*.

The *Accusative*, *Dative*, and the *Genitive or Ablative*, are also called *Oblique cases*.

CONJUNCTIVE PERSONAL PRONOUNS for some of the Oblique cases.

Me, te, nous, vous, se,	for the Accusative and Dative,	me, to me, myself, to myself. thee, to thee, thyself, to thyself. us, to us, ourselves, to ourselves, one another, &c. you, to you, yourself or selves, &c. one another, &c. himself, herself, itself, themselves, one's self, each other, &c.
le, la, les,	for the Accusative only,	him, it, and so relating to Adjectives or actions. her, it. them.
lui, leur,	for the Dative of persons, animals, plants, trees, and things personified,	to him and to her. to them.
y,	for the Dative of actions, places, or situations, and things not personified,	to express to it, to them, there, in it, in them, &c. relatively.
en,	for the Genitive or Ablative of any person, place, thing, &c. to express, in a relative manner, of him, of her, of it, of them; from him, &c. as also to avoid repeating a Noun in the accusative, but affected by an expression of quantity or number.	

These Pronouns are to precede the Verb in French, except in the first or second persons of the imperative without a negation or *que*. Now, when several of these Pronouns depend upon the same Verb, or upon expressions governed by the same Verb, they are generally brought together close before the Verb, in the order pursued in the foregoing table (*le, la, les*, after *me, te, nous, vous, se*; before *lui, leur*, &c.).

With the first or second persons of the imperative mood, neither negative nor preceded by *que*, the conjunctive personal Pronouns are placed after the Verb. Observe, that *le, la, les*, are then to precede the Pronouns of the first and second persons; and that *me* and *te* change into *moi* and *toi*, except before *en* (as we say *m'en, t'en*). Instead of *moi y, toi y*, we say *y moi, y toi*.

Examples.

Speak to him about it. He will give it us; I am sure of it.—Parlez-lui en. Il nous le donnera; j'en suis sûr.

He

Any Preposition affecting a Noun makes it an *Oblique case*.

There are three other cases of which I shall not take notice at present.

(2) To speak with more energy, or to avoid being ambiguous, or to denote identity, we say:

Moi-même,	toi-même,	lui-même,	elle-même,	soi-même,
Myself,	thyself,	himself,	herself,	one's self.
Nous-mêmes,	vous-mêmes,	eux- (or elles-) mêmes,		
Ourselves,	yourself,	yourselves,	themselves.	

(3) *Je, me, te, se, le, la*, lose each its vowel, and take the apostrophe (') before *y, en*, or before a Verb beginning with a vowel or *b* mute.

We write and pronounce in one syllable *J'ai* (I have), instead of *Je ai*, &c.

Any

He will not give *it* you.—Il ne vous le donnera pas.

Those are fine flowers; give *them* to me.—Voilà de belles fleurs; donnez-les moi.

Do not give *them* to me: I might lose *them*.—Ne me les donnez pas: je pourrais les perdre.

Has he any children?—He has three (*children* understood). A-t-il des enfans?—Il en a trois (*en* supplies here the repetition of *enfants*).

You have money about you; lend *me* some.—Vous avez de l'argent sur vous; prêtez-m'en (instead of prêtez-moi de l'argent).

CONJUNCTIVE PRONOUNS, or PRONOMINAL CONJUNCTIONS. (1)

In INTERROGATIONS about PERSONS

Qui stands for the nominative *who*, for the accusative *whom*, and for *whom* in an oblique case governed by a Preposition. Instead of the simple *qui*, we may use *qui est-ce qui* (who) for the nominative, and *qui est-ce que* (whom) for all other cases.

In INTERROGATIONS about THINGS

Qu'est-ce qui stands for *what* in the nominative; *qu'est-ce que*, or simply *Que*, expresses *what* in the accusative; and *Quoi* expresses *what*, governed by a Preposition. (2)

In a DISTRIBUTIVE SENSE, or speaking of CHOICE,

Lequel (m.), *laquelle* (f.), *lesquels* (m. pl.), *lesquelles* (f. pl.), serve to express *which*, followed by *of* or *among*, or meaning *which* of *them*.

Its genitive and ablative is *duquel* (m.), *de laquelle* (f.), *desquels* (m. pl.), *desquelles* (f. pl.), of which, or of which of *them*.

Its dative is *auquel* (m.), *à laquelle* (f.), *auxquels* (m. pl.), *auxquelles* (f. pl.), to which, or to which of *them*.

However *which*, as well as *what* and *what a* or *what an*, falling immediately upon a Noun, is generally *quel* (m.), *quelle* (f.), *quels* (m. pl.), *quelles* (f. pl.)

Examples

(1) Those are *conjunctive Pronouns* or *pronominal Conjunctions*, which, like *Conjunctions*, serve to link Verbs together, without forcing that upon which they fall to be in the infinitive.

(2) *What*, not being interrogative, but standing for two cases in the sense of *that which*, is *ce qui* for the nominative of the Verb it falls upon; *ce que* for its accusative; *ce dont* for its genitive or ablative; *ce à quoi* for its dative, &c.—*ce*, in all these, being either a nominative, or another case, to some other Verb. When *what* is the accusative of a preceding Verb, and afterwards governed with a Preposition by another Verb, *ce* may be suppressed, and the Preposition is to be prefixed to *quoi*.

I know *what* will happen.—Je sais *ce qui* arrivera.

What you are reading is not well-written.—*Ce que* vous lisez n'est pas bien écrit.

What you accuse him of is false.—*Ce dont* vous l'accusez est faux.

You

Examples.

Who told you so?—*Qui* (or, *Qui est-ce qui*) vous l'a dit?

Whom do I love?—*Qui* aimé-je? or, *Qui est-ce que* j'aime?

With whom is she talking?—*Avec qui* cause-t-elle? or, *Avec qui est-ce qu'elle cause?*

What puzzles you?—*Qu'est-ce qui* vous embarrasse?

What do you say?—*Qu'est-ce que* vous dites? or, *Que* dites-vous?

What does he complain of?—*De quoi* se plaint-il?

Which of these houses do you like best?—*Laquelle* de ces maisons aimez-vous le mieux? (*Which house* do you like best? would be: *Quelle maison* aimez-vous le mieux?)

She has three sons: *to which* did he write?—Elle a trois fils: *auquel* a-t-il écrit?

What a man his uncle is!—*Quel* homme que son oncle!

In a RELATIVE SENSE.

Qui, Not interrogative, stands instead of persons, things, &c. in the nominative, and expresses *who*, *which*, or *that*. *Qui* may also stand instead of a Noun of persons, to express *whom*, used indeterminately or governed by a Preposition: but, speaking of animals, plants, things, &c. it is *lequel*, *laquelle*, &c. which we are to use after a Preposition. Nay, in order to avoid ambiguities, we use also *lequel*, &c. though *who*, *whom*, &c. should refer to persons.

Que, The accusative of *Qui*, not interrogative, stands instead of persons not indeterminate, as well as of animals, things, &c. in the accusative, and means *whom*, *which*, or *that*, expressed or understood.

Dont, The genitive or ablative of *qui*, not interrogative, often serves to express *of whom*, *of which*, *from whom*, &c. *Dont* serves also to express *whose*, before a Noun which proves to be the nominative or accusative of a following Verb (3). In other circumstances we generally use *de qui*, or *duquel*, *de laquelle*, &c.

Où, The dative of *qui*, speaking of places, situations, and conditions, interrogatively or not, serves to express *where*, *wherein*, *in which*, &c. with a kind of motion or rest. *Où* is sometimes used, with a reference to time, to express *when*, *on which*, *during which*, &c.

D'où, is used to express, in the ablative, *whence*, *wherefrom*, *from which*, &c. speaking of some place, situation, or condition. (4)

B

Quoi

You know *what* he complains of.—Vous savez *de quoi* il se plaint.

What you apply to is not useful.—*Ce à quoi* vous vous appliquez n'est pas utile.

(3) *Whose*, followed by a tense of *to be*, in the sense of *to belong to*, is *à qui*. *Whose house* is that?—*À qui est* cette maison-là?

(4) *Par où* may also be used to express *whereby*, *through which*, &c. with a reference to some place, or situation, or condition, as also to express *which way*.—*Par où* means likewise *by what means*.

Jusqu'où may be used to express *how far*, *to what degree*, &c.

I am going to tell you *where* I have been, *what places* I passed through, *where* I now come from, and *how far* I intend to travel.—Je vais vous dire *où* j'ai été, *par où* j'ai passé, *d'où* je viens actuellement, & *jusqu'où* je me propose de voyager.

Qui { may be used, after a Preposition, to express *which*, referring to *ce*, or *rien*, or *quelque chose* (*dont* is better than *de quoi* after them). *Qui* is often used, after a Preposition, with a reference to inanimate things; except plants, trees, rivers, places, and manners.

Examples.

Send me the book *which* is on the table.—Envoyez-moi le livre *qui* est sur la table.
The house *which* you see is this lady's.—La maison *que* vous voyez est à madame.
I know very well *whom* you mean.—Je sais fort bien *qui* vous voulez dire (*whom* is indeterminate here).

The ladies *for whom* I interested myself are just set out.—Les dames *pour qui* (or *pour lesquelles*) je m'intéressais viennent de partir.

That horse is dead, *for which* you had offered me fifty guineas.—Ce cheval, *pour lequel* (not *pour qui*) vous m'aviez offert cinquante guinées, est mort.

Those are the people *of whom* I spoke to you just now.—Voilà les gens, *dont* (or *de qui*, or *desquels*) je vous parlois tout à l'heure.

Where is the kite *of which* I made you a present?—Où est le cerf-volant *dont* (or *duquel*, but not *de qui*) je vous ai fait présent?

There is a young man *whose sister* is charming.—Voilà un jeune homme *dont la sœur* est charmante (here *sister* is a nominative).

There is no man *whose happiness* I envy.—Il n'est point d'homme *dont j'envie la bonheur* (here *happiness* is an accusative).

I don't know *of whose* garden you speak.—Je ne sais du jardin *de qui* vous parlez (here *garden* is neither a nominative nor an accusative).

I am speaking of the danger *in which* he was, and *from which* I extricated him.—Je parle du danger *où* il étoit, & *d'où* je l'ai tiré.

There is nothing *which* I am not ready to serve you *in*.—Il n'y a rien *en quoi* je ne sois prêt à vous obliger.

There is nothing *of which* he complains more.—Il n'est rien *dont* il se plaint davantage.

Idleness is a vice *to which* young people are but too much inclined.—La paresse est un vice *à quoi* (or *auquel*) les jeunes gens ne sont que trop enclins,

Which

Which, without a Noun, and serving to form an interjective reflection concerning something spoken of; that is, *which*, relating to a whole sentence, or to part of a sentence, not expressed by some preceding Noun, and meaning *which circumstance*, or *a circumstance which*, *which event*, &c. may be *ce qui* for the nominative, *ce que* for the accusative, and *quoi*, when affected by a Preposition.

She scolds from morning to night, *which* I cannot bear.—Elle gronde du matin au soir, *ce que* je ne saurois souffrir.

He has behaved ill to his friend, who had been his benefactor too, *in which* he is doubly culpable.—Il a manqué à son ami, à son bienfaiteur, *en quoi* il est doublement coupable.

I did not arrive yesterday before eight in the evening, *which* prevented me from coming to pay you my respects.—Je n'arrivai hier qu'à huit heures du soir, *ce qui* m'empêcha de venir vous rendre mes devoirs.

Speaking both INDETERMINATELY and SUPERLATIVELY

Qui que ce soit qui (whosoever, &c.) for persons, and

Quoi que ce soit qui (whatsoever, &c.) for things, extend superlatively to the quality, class, rank, or nature of the individuals; exclude any exception whatever, and govern the subjunctive. Now for the accusative or any of the oblique cases, we either change the last *qui* into *que*, or suppress *ce soit qui*, using simply *qui que* (whomever), and *quoi que* (whatsoever).

Quiconque means also *whosoever*, *whomever*, &c. but it does not point to the quality, &c. of the individual, nor does it govern the subjunctive.

Examples.

Whoever shall speak English is to be fined.—*Quiconque* parlera Anglois sera mis à l'amende; or, pointing to the qualities, &c. of the individuals: *Qui que ce soit qui* vienne à parler Anglois, *il* sera mis à l'amende.

Whatever may prevent you from it, people will blame you.—*Quoi que ce soit qui* puisse vous en empêcher, on vous blâmera.

Whosoever you may be speaking to, you ought to do it with politeness.—*A qui que ce soit que* (or simply, *A qui que*) vous parliez, vous devez le faire avec politesse.

Whatever he may undertake, he never will succeed.—*Quoi que ce soit qu'il* (or simply, *Quoi qu'il*) entreprenne, il ne réussira jamais. (1)

COMPARISONS

(1) The Adjective *quelque* does not always mean *some*; for, when it is followed by a Noun, then by *que* and the subjunctive, it expresses superlatively *whatever* (or some equivalent). Now this *quelque* becomes an Adverb, and therefore is invariable, when an Adjective (the meaning of which we intend to raise by *quelque*) is to be used between it and the Noun.

Whatever misfortunes you may have met with.—*Quelques malheurs que vous ayez essuyés.*

However great the misfortunes may be *which* you have met with.—*Quelque grands malheurs que vous ayez essuyés.*

If a tense of *être* (to be), or of any other Verb implying situation or condition, were to be affected by the superlative expression, and the Noun were not attended by an Adjective, we should use the declinable Adjective *quel* (instead of *quelque*) with *que* close to it, then the Verb *être* (or its equivalent), in the

subjunctive, and afterwards the Noun with an Article (or an equivalent). But, if we wish to throw an Adjective before the Verb, we must use again the undeclinable *quelque*. Hence we say: *Quels que fussent les malheurs que vous avez essuyés*, (*whatever might be the misfortunes which you have met with*); or, *Quelque grands que fussent les malheurs que vous avez essuyés* (*how great soever might be, &c.*)

N.B. When we merely admit that a thing goes to a great degree, we may use *tout*, instead of *quelque*, before an Adjective; but then the subjunctive must not come in after *que*. *Tout grands que sont les malheurs que vous avez essuyés*, means: *Great as are the misfortunes which you have met with.*

Again, the tenses of *avoir beau* have often the same effect as *quelque...que* or *tout...que*; and we may say: *Les malheurs que vous avez essuyés ont beau être grands.*

COMPARISONS of Equality, Superiority, and Inferiority.

As, before an *Adjective* or *Adverb*, may be - *aussi*
So or *such*, before an *Adjective* or *Adverb*, may be - *si*
As much, or *as many*, - - - - - may be *autant*
So much, or *so many*, - - - - - may be *tant*

} And the concluding *as* is
que.

More may be *plus* (or, if conclusive, *d'avantage*).

The final *er*, added, in English, to an *Adjective* or *Adverb*, is equivalent to *more* (greater is the same as *more great*).

Worse, when *Adverb*, may be *pis* or *plus mal*, when *Adjective* it is *pire*, *plus mauvais*, *plus méchant*.

Better, when *Adverb*, may be *mieux*; when *Adjective*, it must be *meilleur*.

Less, when *Adverb*, or meaning a *less quantity*, as well as *fewer*, may be *moins*; when *Adjective*, or meaning *smaller*, it is *moindre* or *plus petit*.

Sooner may be *plutôt* or *plus tôt*.

Rather may be *plutôt*; *mieux*, if it means *better*; *un peu*, if it means a *little*; and *assez*, if it means *pretty*, *sufficiently*, or *enough*.

Than, concluding a comparison, may be *que*, which requires *ne* before the concluding Verb of the comparison (if expressed), provided the preceding Verb is not either negative without interrogation, or interrogative without negation.

More than, forming no comparison, but in the simple sense of *above* or *beyond*, is *plus de*.

Less than, forming no comparison, but in the simple sense of *under* or *below*, is *moins de*.

Than whom, *than which*, and *than* falling upon the Conjunction *that*, require the sentence to be altered.

So much the more, or *the more*, followed by *as*, is *d'autant plus*; *so much the less*, or *the less*, followed by *as*, is *d'autant moins*; and the concluding *as* is *que*. Hence *the*, before an *Adjective* or *Adverb* having the comparative termination in *-er*, and being followed by *as*, is to be preceded by *d'autant plus*, and the concluding *as* is to be *que*.

To express a proportionate gradation, *the more* may be merely *plus*, and *the less*, or *the fewer*, merely *moins*.

Examples.

She has not so much sense as her sister; but she is as sprightly and amiable.—Elle n'a pas tant d'esprit (1) que sa sœur; mais elle est aussi enjouée & aussi aimable.

He

(1) When a Noun is affected by an expression implying quantity, except *bien* (much or many), this Noun is generally to have *de* prefixed to it without any Article. Yet, if that expression is an *Adjective*, such as *certain*, *certaines* (some, certain), the invariable *plusieurs* (several, many), *divers*, *diverses*, or *différents*, *différentes* (sundry, several), the invariable *force* (much, many, numbers), *beaucoup*, *beaucoup*, &c. (many a, many, several), we use neither *de* nor any Article before the Noun.

(2) *Most*, in the sense of *the greatest part of*, may be *la plupart de*, or *le plus grand nombre de*, or *la plu-*

He drinks as much water as wine.—Il boit autant d'eau que de vin.

She is richer than you imagine.—Elle est plus riche que vous ne le pensez.

True. But is she more charitable than he was?—Cela est vrai. Mais est-elle plus charitable qu'il l'étoit?

She is not less handsome than her mother was.—Elle n'est pas moins belle que sa mère l'étoit.

Is she not more sensible than you said?—N'est-elle pas plus sensée que vous ne le disiez?

I lost a little less than seventy guineas.—J'ai perdu un peu moins de soixante & dix guineas.

This is more than three men can do.—C'est plus que trois hommes ne peuvent faire.

I am so much the more inclined to believe that, as my brother himself told it me.—Je suis d'autant plus porté à le croire, que mon frère me l'a dit lui-même.

The more I drink, the more thirsty I am.—Plus je bois, plus j'ai soif.

The more I examine that question, the less difficult I find it.—Plus j'examine cette question, moins je la trouve difficile.

The less money he gets, the more expense he runs into.—Moins il gagne d'argent, plus il fait de dépense.

I love them the more for it.—Je les en aime davantage.

COMPARISONS in a SUPERLATIVE DEGREE.

If the definite Article or a possessive *Adjective* is prefixed to *plus*, *moins* or *moindre*, *mieux* or *meilleur*, *pis* or *pire*, *plutôt*, these comparative expressions are then made superlative. Hence

The most, or *most* in the same sense, may be *le plus*, *la plus*, *les plus*.—*My most* may be *mon plus*, *ma plus*, *mes plus*, &c. (2)

The final *est*, added, in English, to an *Adjective* or *Adverb*, is equivalent to *most*: there *is*, *the greatest* is the same as *the most great*.

The worst, when an *Adverb*, may be *le pis* or *le plus mal*; and when an *Adjective*, it may be *le pire*, *le plus mauvais*, or *le plus méchant*.

The best, when an *Adverb*, may be *le mieux*; and when an *Adjective*, it may be *le meilleur*.

The least, when an *Adverb*, or meaning *the least quantity*, as well as *the fewest*, may be *le moins*; and when an *Adjective*, or meaning *the smallest*, it may be *le moindre* or *le plus petit*.

The

relative If the Noun affected by it is of a nature to be used in the plural; and it may be *le plus grande partie* if the Noun cannot be made plural.

Most, in the sense of *very*, *exceedingly*, &c. may be *très*, *fort*, *bien*, *beaucoup*, *extrêmement*, &c. and mark, that *bien* may intimate too much of the thing or quality, and that *beaucoup*, *très*, and *fort*, seldom point to any excess. Observe, that when the superlative *Adjective* is to be placed after its Noun (and that is generally the case), *le*, *la*, or *les*, must be placed invariably before that *Adjective*, though the Noun should already be preceded by the definite Article or by a possessive *Adjective*.

The Conjunction *that* (expressed or understood), forming the conclusion of a relative superlative comparison, is *que*, which governs the subjunctive. Observe, that when it is an Adverb which is raised to a superlative degree, and this superlative may be changed into a comparison of equality, the concluding *que* does not govern the subjunctive. Observe also, that the conjunctive Pronouns *qui, que, dont, où, quoi, lequel, &c.* when they lead to the conclusion of a superlative comparison, will govern the subjunctive. After *ce qui, ce que*, followed by a Verb and then an Adjective in the superlative, we may use *de* instead of *le*, because *ce qui* or *ce que*, with *de*, is equivalent to the definite Article or a possessive Adjective.

When the superlative expression is not a relative comparison with respect to some other individual, the superlative sign *le* can be made neither feminine nor plural.

Examples.

The most clever people are sometimes guilty of the grossest faults.—*Les plus habiles gens sont quelquefois coupables des fautes les plus grossières.*

He is one of the greatest commanders we have.—*C'est un des plus grands capitaines que nous ayons.*

Come back the soonest you can (that is, as soon as you can).—*Revenez le plutôt que vous pourrez* (or, *aussitôt que vous pourrez*).

He said to her the most tender things that grief can inspire one with.—*Il lui dit tout ce que la douleur peut inspirer de plus tendre.*

What was most touching, was a Minerva animating the arts.—*Ce qui étoit* (or *ce qu'il y avoit*) *de plus touchant, c'étoit une Minerve qui animoit les arts.*

Those who have fewest enemies are not always those who succeed most.—*Ce qui ont le moins d'ennemis, ne sont pas toujours ceux qui réussissent le plus.*

Here comes that of his daughters whom he loves most.—*Voici celle de ses filles qu'il aime le plus.*

He to whom she did most good, is the man from whom she received most insults.—*Celui à qui elle a fait le plus de bien, est celui de qui elle a reçu le plus d'outrage.*

N. B. *Le seul* or *l'unique* (the only, the sole), *le premier* (the first), and *le dernier* (the last or the utmost), being superlative expressions, the concluding conjunctive Pronoun by which they may be followed, generally requires the subjunctive. As in: He is the only man who lives in that manner.—*C'est le seul homme qui vive de la sorte.* He was the only orator of that time.—*C'étoit l'unique orateur qu'il y eût en ce temps-là.*

EXPLANATION

EXPLANATION of the TABLE of VERBS, p. 10.

The last syllabick termination of the infinitive constitutes, with *me*, a Conjugation. Now, as there are in French Verbs four such terminations, viz. *er, ir, oir, and re*, I say, there are four conjugations.

The Verb wherein one of those terminations is in capital letters, with a hyphen (-) prefixed to these letters, is a regular Verb, which is to guide the pupil in regard to all the regular Verbs of the same conjugation; the hyphen in each row pointing out the variation which that termination receives for every simple tense. (1)

The Verbs which follow each regular Verb (and there are four) are primitive irregular Verbs, whose derivatives are to be conjugated in the same manner; for instance, *consentir, pressentir, ressentir*, ending in, and being derived from, *sentir*, are to undergo the same inflections as their primitive *sentir*. Again, the Verbs in *convenir* are to be conjugated like *ouvrir*; the Verbs *conquérir, s'enquérir, requérir*, and any other in *quérir*, are to vary, like *acquérir*, in the manner that the table points out at the word *quérir*, in the second conjugation. In short, wherever I prefix *in*, I mean that any Verb, which has the termination whose variations that line exhibits, is to be conjugated in the same manner.

In the fourth Conjugation the Verb *rendre* shows how the final *re* is to vary in all the regular Verbs belonging to that division; and it must be understood that the final *re*, in the Verbs which terminate in *andre, erdre, ordre, ondre, ompre, &c.* is to go through the same inflections as in those whose infinitive ends in *endre*; those in *prendre* excepted.

And among the irregulars of this fourth conjugation, *aindre* shows how *craindre, plaindre, contraindre*, are to vary: *eindre* shows how *seindre*, and the Verbs in *ceindre, peindre, teindre, veindre, freindre, preindre, and treindre*, are to be conjugated: *oindre* shows how *joindre* and its derivatives, as well as *poindre*, are to change: *oïre* shows how *paraître, connaître*, and their derivatives, should vary; but observe, that in the third person singular the *i* must have the circumflex over it; the same should be observed with *naître* and *paître*: *crire* shows how *écrire, décrire*, and all those in *scrire*, as *inscrire, prescrire, proscrire, souscrire, transcrire*, are to have their final *crire* varied: *uire* shows how to conjugate *produire* and all other Verbs in *duire*, as well as those in *cuire*, and those in *truire* or *struire*, as *détruire, instruire, conscrire, &c.*

(1) Upon knowing properly how to conjugate the Verbs; that is to say, how to go through all their inflections or variations of moods, tenses, and persons, in the singular and plural, affirmatively, negatively, interrogatively, and both interrogatively and negatively, chiefly depends the progress of the pupil. The following table cannot be learned too soon. The four regular Verbs should be learned first. When the pupil knows them, the master should propose other regular Verbs, and make his pupil vary them as those in the table direct. Afterwards he should make his pupil learn the formation and terminations of the simple tenses (this precedes the table); and then pass to the irregular Verbs, and make his pupil learn them as the table directs. After this he should make his pupil learn the formation of the compound tenses annexed to the table. Nor is it enough for the pupil to go once through this table; the master should, every time he gives a lecture, make him repeat a few Verbs, as in the table; then make him say all the tenses of one through the three persons both singular and plural, affirmatively, negatively, interrogatively, and both interrogatively and negatively. When the master finds his pupil knows the table thoroughly, he should make him conjugate some of the derivatives of every irregular Verb, being careful, at every variation of tense, to make him say that it comes from such or such part of the Verb, and that it is formed by changing such or such termination into that one which the tense he is about requires.

FORMATION

FORMATION and TERMINATIONS of the SIMPLE TENSES.

The PRESENT INDICATIVE.

If, in the Table, the first person singular ends in *e* mute, the second is to end in *es* mute, and the third in *t* mute, like the first.

If, in the Table, the first person singular ends in *r* or *x*, the second is to end in the same, and the third in *t*, instead of *s* or *x*. Yet, if the final *s* is preceded by *c*, *d*, or *t*, we only suppress *s* for the third person singular.

The plural of the present indicative is generally formed from the Participle present, by changing *ant* into *ent*.

The terminations of the plural of the present indicative are generally...*ent* for the first person, *ez* for the second, *ent* (mute) for the third.

The PRETERITE INDICATIVE. (1)

The first person singular of the preterite indicative is found in the table; but observe, That the Verbs in *er* always become - *ai*, *as*, *a*, — *âmes*, *âtes*, *urent*. Those in *enir*, from *tenir* and *venir*, become - *ins*, *ins*, *int*, — *îmes*, *îtes*, *irent*. And the other Verbs have } either in - *is*, *is*, *it*, — *îmes*, *îtes*, *irent**
their preterite } or in - *us*, *us*, *ut*, — *ûmes*, *ûtes*, *urent**

* The regular Verbs in both *ir* and *re* have their preterite indicative in *is*. The generality of the Verbs in *oir* have it by adding *s* to the Participle past, which Participle is formed by changing the terminations *avoir*, *evoir*, *curvoir*, *ouvoir*, into *u*.

The IMPERFECT INDICATIVE, which may be turned into was doing, or were doing, or used to do, &c. (2)

is formed from the Participle present, by changing *ant* into *ois*; except for *avoir* and *savoir*, whose imperfect is *j'avois*, &c. *je savais*, &c. There being no other exception, this tense is not to be found in the table.

The terminations of the imperfect indicative are...*ois*, *ois*, *oit*, — *ions*, *iez*, *oient*.

The FUTURE INDICATIVE, whose English signs are shall, or will not indicating volition, or an act of the will,

is generally formed from the infinitive, by changing the final *r* or *re* into *rai*; by changing *enir*, in *tenir* and *venir*, into *iendrai*; by changing *evoir* into *evrai*, &c. There being several exceptions, this tense is found in the table.

The terminations of the future indicative are...*rai*, *ras*, *ra*, — *rons*, *rez*, *ront*.

The CONDITIONAL INDICATIVE, the English signs of which are should or were to, or would not indicating positively a will,

is always formed from the future indicative, by changing *rai*, *ras*, &c. into *rois*. There being no exception to the rule, this tense is not found in the table.

The terminations of the conditional indicative are *rois*, *rois*, *roit*, — *riens*, *riez*, *roient*.

(1) The preterite serves to express something past, the beginning and end of which are determined, or at least known, to the speaker: therefore it comes in with the first past event, which is not to be represented as a situation or condition, but as a thing declared to have actually taken place in so definite a manner, that it does not present the sense of an indeterminate habit. All the events which come in afterwards in an enumerating manner, or as subsequent to the first past event, are also to be in the preterite. But observe, that the compound of the present is often equivalent to the preterite, and that whenever we speak of actions which have taken place within a period of time not yet over by one full night, we are to use the compound of the present instead of the preterite. See also the compound both of the present and of the future.

The PRESENT (or FUTURE) SUBJUNCTIVE

is generally formed from the third person plural of the indicative, by suppressing the final *nt*; observing, that the first and second persons plural are, in general, like those of the imperfect indicative, and that the third person plural is always formed by adding *nt* to that which the first person singular of this very tense proves to be, though this first person may have been formed irregularly; the Verb *être* excepted. As some Verbs deviate from the rule, this tense is found in the table.

The terminations of the present (or future) subjunctive are *e*, *es*, *e*, (all mute); and *ions*, *iez*, *ent* (mute).

The PRETERITE (IMPERFECT or CONDITIONAL) SUBJUNCTIVE is always formed from the preterite indicative, by changing

<i>ai</i>	} into	<i>asse</i>	<i>asset</i>	<i>ât</i>	—	<i>ussions</i>	<i>ussions</i>	<i>ussent</i>
<i>ins</i>		<i>insse</i>	<i>insse</i>	<i>int</i>	—	<i>ussions</i>	<i>ussions</i>	<i>ussent</i>
<i>is</i>		<i>isse</i>	<i>isse</i>	<i>it</i>	—	<i>ussions</i>	<i>ussions</i>	<i>ussent</i>
<i>us</i>		<i>usse</i>	<i>usse</i>	<i>ût</i>	—	<i>ussions</i>	<i>ussions</i>	<i>ussent</i>

There being no exception to the rule, this tense is not found in the table. Observe, that the regular Verbs of the second conjugation (in *ir*) have their preterite subjunctive like the present subjunctive (in *isse*, &c.); except the third person singular, which, in the preterite subjunctive, becomes *ît* instead of *isse*.

The IMPERATIVE, whose English sign is let, and which, pointing to something to come, ought to be considered as a sort of a future tense,

is, in its third persons, both singular and plural, as in the present (or future) subjunctive, with *que* to express let, before the Pronoun or Noun which is to become the agent; and in the first person plural, and both the second persons; it is (except for *avoir*, *savoir*, *vouloir*, and *être*) the same as in the present indicative, suppressing the personal Pronoun which serves as agent. (3)

The second person singular is to drop the final *s* in those Verbs whose present indicative ends in *e* mute; except before the Pronouns *en* and *y* governed by them.

The imperative of *avoir* is...*aie*, *qu'il ait*, — *ayons*, *ayez*, *qu'ils aient*.

That of *savoir* is...*sache*, *qu'il sache*, — *sachons*, *sachez*, *qu'ils sachent*.

That of *vouloir*, which can take place only when it means to vouchsafe, to condescend, to be so good as, is...*veuille*, *qu'il veuille*, — *veuilions*, *veuillez*, *qu'ils veuillent*.

That of *être* is...*sois*, *qu'il soit*, — *soyons*, *soyez*, *qu'ils soient*.

* We say, *va-t-en* (not *vas-en*) get thee gone, though we say, *va-y* (go thou there) and *en cherche* (go and fetch some), because *en* is then governed by *cherche*.

(2) The imperfect is used only by apposition or for digressions, when we want to represent past situations or conditions, the duration of which is left indeterminate, or to explain the nature or peculiarities of what has been mentioned already, or to express habitual actions, indeterminate as to the number of times they took place, or to mention actions which were intended, but did not take effect. The actions which, with respect to situations or conditions, are intervening, ought to be in either the preterite or the compound of the present, as the time may require.

(3) As we have not a first person singular in the imperative, we often use the first person plural in its stead; or else we use the first person singular of the present subjunctive, with *que* prefixed to the agent.

A TABLE FOR CONJUGATING

Infinitive.		Participle Pres.	Participle Past.	Present Indicative.	Preterite Indic.	Future Indic.	Present (or Future) Subjunctive.	
Parl-ER Aller (1) in ployer (Em-) in Envoyer	to speak to go to employ to send	Parl-ant allant em- <i>ployant</i> envoyant	Parl-é allé or été (1) em- <i>ployé</i> envoyé	Je Parl- je vais j'em- j'envoie	ils Parl-ent ils vont ils em- <i>ploient</i> ils envoient	je Parl-ai j'allai or je fus j'em- <i>ployai</i> j'envoyai	je Parl-e j'aile — nous allons, &c. j'em- <i>ploie</i> — nous em- <i>ployions</i> , &c. j'envoie — nous envoyions, &c.	
Bât-IR Assaillir in Bouillir in Courir in Cueillir in Dormir in Faillir in Fuir Hâir in Mentir Mourir in Offrir in Ouir in Ouvrir in Partir (2) in quérir (Ac-) Se Repentir in saillir (Tref-) in Sentir in Servir (3) in Sortir (4) Souffrir in Tenir in Venir in Vêtir	to build to assault to boil to run to gather to sleep to fail to flee, to fly to hate to lie to die to offer to hear to open to set out to acquire to repent to startle to feel, smell to serve to go out to suffer to hold, keep to come to clothe	Bât-issant assaillant bouillant courant cueillant dormant faillant fuyant haissant mentant mourant offrant oyant* ouvrant partant ac- <i>quérant</i> se repentant tref- <i>saillant</i> sentant servant sortant souffrant tenant venant vêtant	Bât-i assailli bouilli cours cueilli dormi failli fui hai menti mort offert oui ouvert parti ac- <i>quis</i> repenti tref- <i>failli</i> senti servi forti souffert tenu venu vêtu	je Bât- j'assaille je bouis je cours je cueille je dors je faux* je suis je hais je mens je meurs j'offre j'ois* j'ouvre je pars j'ac- <i>qui</i> je me re je tref- je sens je sers je sors je souff je tien je vien je vêts	ils Bât-issent ils assaillent ils bouillent ils courent ils cueillent ils dorment ils faillent* ils fuient ils haïssent ils mentent ils meurent ils offrent ils oient* ils ouvrent ils partent ils ac- <i>quièrent</i> ils se repentent ils tref- <i>saillent</i> ils sentent ils servent ils sortent ils souffrent ils tiennent ils viennent ils vêtent	je Bât-irai j'assailirai je bouillirai je courrai je cueillirai je dormirai je faudrai* je fuirai je haïrai je mentirai je mourrai j'offrirai j'oirai* j'ouvrirai je partirai j'ac- <i>querrai</i> je me repentirai je tref- <i>saillirai</i> je sentirai je servirai je sortirai je souffrirai je tiendrai je viendrai je vêtirai	je Bât-isse j'assaille je bouille je coure je cueille je dorme je faille* je fuie je haïsse je mente je meure — nous mourions, &c. j'offre j'ois* j'ouvre je parte j'ac- <i>quièrre</i> — nous ac- <i>quérons</i> , &c. je me repente je tref- <i>faille</i> je sente je serve je sorte je souffre je tienne — nous tenions, &c. je vienne — nous venions, &c. je vête	
Con-CEVOIR in Devoir in Assoir (5) Avoir in choir (Dé-) Falloir in Mouvoir Pleuvir in Pourvoir Pouvoir (6) Prévaloir Prévoir Savoir Seoir	to conceive to owe to sit down to have to decline to be requisite to move to rain to provide to be able to prevail to foresee to know to best	Con- <i>cevant</i> Devant asséant ayant dé- <i>choyant</i> fallant* mouvant pleuvant pourvoyant pouvant prévalant prévoyant sachant seyant	Con- <i>çu</i> Dû assis eu dé- <i>chu</i> fallu mû plu pourvu pu prévalu prévu su Wanting	je Con- je Dois j'assied j'ai, as, a je dé- il faut je meus il pleut je pou je puis je prév je prév je fais je siéde	ils Con- <i>çoivent</i> ils Doivent ils asséent avons, avez, ont ils dé- <i>choient</i> Wanting ils meuvent Wanting ils pourvoient ils peuvent ils prévalent ils prévoient nous savons, &c. ils siéent	je Con- <i>çus</i> je Dus j'assis j'eus je dé- <i>chus</i> il fallut je mus il plut je pourvus je pus je prévalus je prévis je sus Wanting	je Con- <i>cevrai</i> je Devrai j'assierai j'aurai je dé- <i>cherrai</i> il faudra je mouvrai il pleuvra je pourvoirai je pourrai je prévaudrai je prévoirai je saurai je siérai	je Con- <i>çoive</i> — nous Con- <i>cevions</i> , &c. je Doive — nous devions, &c. j'assieye — nous assiéyions, &c. j'aie, aies, ait — ayons, ayez, aient. je dé- <i>choie</i> , — nous dé- <i>choyions</i> , &c. il faille je meuve — nous mouvions, &c. je pourvoie — nous pourvoyions, &c. je puisse — nous puissions, &c. je prévale je prévoie — nous prévoyions, &c. je sache — nous sachions, &c. je siée

* Where this (*) mark is, it means that the expression is seldom used.

(1) *Ret* and *je fus*, &c. are used to express that the person went and came back. Though we say: *je vais*

or *was*, we must say: *tu vas*, *il va*.

(2) *Partir*, *repartir*, and *mi-partir*, in the sense of *to share* or *divide*, are regular.

(3) *Assoir* (to subject) is regular.

(4) *Sortir* and *ressortir* (when law terms), also *assortir* (to match), and *déassortir*, are regular.

(5) *Assoir* may also become *assoyant*, *assis*, *j'assois*, *ils assoient* — *j'assis*, *j'assoierai*, *j'assoie*, *nous assoyons*, &c.

(6) Though we say: *je puis* or *peux*, we must say: *tu peux*, *il peut*.

ANY FRENCH VERB.

Infinitive.		Participle Pres.	Participle Past.	Present Indicative	Preterite Indic.	Future Indic.	Present (or Future) Subjunctive.	
Surseoir	to supersede	Surseoyant	sursis	je surseois	ils surseois	je sursis	je surseoirai	je surseoie — nous surseoyions, &c.
in Valoir	to be worth	Valant	valu	je vaux	ils valent	je valus	je vaudrai	je vaille — nous valions, &c.
in Voir	to see	voyant	vu	je vois	ils voient	je vis	je verrai	je voie — nous voyions, &c.
in Vouloir	to be willing	voulant	voulu	je veux	ils veulent	je voulus	je voudrai	je veuille — nous voulions, &c.
Rend-RE	to render	Rend-ant	Rend-u	je Rend-s	ils Rend-nt	je Rend-is	je Rend-rai	je Rend-r
in aindre (Cr-)	to fear	cr-aignant	cr-aint	je cr-ains	ils cr-aignent	je cr-aignis	je cr-aindrai	je cr-aigne
in Battre	to beat	battant	battu	je bats	ils battent	je battis	je battrai	je batte
in Boire	to drink	buvant	bu	je bois	ils boivent	je bus	je boirai	je boive — nous buvions, &c.
Braire	to bray	brayant	braït	je brais	ils braient	je brayis	je brairai	je braie
Circoncire	to circumcise	circoncisant	circoncis	je circoncis	ils circoncissent	je circoncis	je circoncirai	je circoncise
in Clorre or clore	to shut up	closant	clos	je clos	ils closent	je closis	je clorrai	je close
in clure (Con-)	to conclude	con-cluant	con-clu (1)	je con-clus (1)	ils con-cluent	je con-clus	je con-clurai	je con-clue — nous con-cluions, &c.
in Confire	to pickle	confisant	confit	je confis	ils confisent	je confis	je confirai	je confise
in Coudre	to sew	cousant	cousu	je couds	ils cousent	je cousis	je coudrai	je coule
in crire (E-)	to write	é-crivant	é-crit	j'é-cris	ils é-crivent	j'é-crivis	j'é-crirai	j'é-crive
in Croire	to believe	croyant	cru	je crois	ils croient	je crus	je croirai	je croie — nous croyions, &c.
in Croître	to grow	croissant	crû	je crois	ils croissent	je crus	je croîtrai	je croisse
in Dire	to tell or say	disant	dit	je dis (2)	ils disent	je dis	je dirai	je dise
in eindre (F-)	to sign	f-eignant	f-eint	je f-eins	ils f-eignent	je f-eignis	je f-eindrai	je f-eigne
Etre	to be	étant	été	je suis, es, est	sommes, sont	je fus	je serai	je sois, soit — soyons, soyez, soient
in Faire	to do	faisant	fait	je fais (2) vous faites, ils font	je fis	je ferai	je fasse — nous faisons, &c.	
Frirc	to fry	faisant frire	frit	je fris	ils font frire	je fis frire	je frirai	je fasse frire, &c.
in Lire	to read	lisant	lu	je lis	ils lisent	je lus	je lirai	je lise
in Luire	to shine	luisant	lui	je luis	ils luisent	je luisis	je luirai	je luisse
in Maudire	to curse	maudissant	maudit	je maudis	ils maudissent	je maudis	je maudirai	je maudisse
in Mettre	to put	mettant	mis	je mets	ils mettent	je mis	je mettrai	je mette
in Moudre	to grind	moulant	moulu	je mouds	ils moulent	je moulus	je moudrai	je moule
in Naître	to be born	naissant	né	je nais	ils naissent	je naquis	je naîtrai	je naisse
Nuire	to hurt	nuisant	nui	je nuis	ils nuisent	je nuisis	je nuirai	je nuise
in oindre (J-)	to join	j-oignant	j-oint	je j-oins	ils j-oignent	je j-oignis	je j-oindrai	je j-oigne
in oître (Par-)	to appear	par-oissant	par-u	je par-ois	ils par-oissent	je par-us	je par-oîtrai	je par-oisse
in Paître	to graze	paissant	pû	je pais	ils paissent	je pûs	je paîtrai	je païsse
in Plaire	to please	plaisant	plu	je plais	ils plaisent	je plus	je plairai	je plaïse
in Prendre	to take	prenant	pris	je prends	ils prennent	je pris	je prendrai	je prenne — nous prenions, &c.
in Rire	to laugh	riant	ri	je ris	ils rient	je ris	je rirai	je rie — nous riions, &c.
in résoudre (Ré-)	to resolve	ré-solvant	ré-solu (3)	je ré-sous	ils ré-solvent	je ré-solus	je ré-soudrai	je ré-solve
Suffire	to suffice	suffisant	suffi	je suffis	ils suffisent	je suffis	je suffirai	je suffise
in Suivre	to follow	suisant	suivi	je suis	ils suivent	je suivis	je suivrai	je suive
Taire	not to speak of	taisant	tu	je tais	ils taisent	je tus	je tairai	je taïse
in Traire	to milk	trayant	trait	je traie	ils traient	je trayis	je trairai	je traie — nous trayions, &c.
in Vaincre	to overcome	vainquant	vaincu	je vaincs	ils vainquent	je vainquis	je vaincrai	je vainque
in Vivre	to live	vivant	vécu	je vis	ils vivent	je vécus	je vivrai	je vive
in vire (Prod-)	to produce	prod-uifant	prod-uit	je prod-uïs	ils prod-uisent	je prod-uifis	je prod-uirai	je prod-uise

(1) *Inclure* has, for its Participle past, *inclus* (m.), *incluse* (f.). — *Exclure* has it in either *exclus* (m.), *excluse* (f.), or *exclu* (m.), *exclue* (f.). We write either *il conclut*, or *il conclut*. (Académie)

(2) *Dire* and *redire* have their second person plural of the present indicative and of the imperative in *dites* and *redites*; but the other Verbs in *dire* take the regular termination *disent*. Verbs in *faire* have it *faisent*.

(3) *Aboudre* (to absolve) and *dissoudre* (to dissolve) have their Participle past in *absous* (m.), *absoute* (f.), and *dissous* (m.), *dissoute* (f.); nay, *réssoudre*, in the sense of *to dissolve*, has it also in *réssous* (m.), *réssoute* (f.).

FORMATION of the COMPOUND TENSES for *anterior* or *prior* Events.

Compound of the Present Indicative.

Note I. The preterite is used instead of this tense when, a period of time being expressed, one full night or more has elapsed between that period of time, and the moment when the speaker mentions the event. See Reference I. after the formation of the simple tense.

The present tense of *venir de* or of *ne faire que de*, with an infinitive, is equivalent to a compound of the present, to express, with the first, something which is just past, and with the second, something which is but just past.

I may have, in the sense of *possibly I have*, &c. is often rendered by *j'ai pu*: then the English Participle past becomes an infinitive. However see Note VI.

To have
having
had

I have
thou hast
he has, or he hath
we have
you have or ye have
they have

Compound of the Preterite Indicative.

Note II. We generally use the compound of the preterite, when *had*, followed by a Participle past, is affected by any of these Conjunctions of time, *when*, *after*, *as soon as*, or their equivalents *hardly*, *scarcely*, *at the moment that*, &c. unless this Conjunction and the Verb should come in to express *habitual events*; for we should then use the compound of the imperfect, as if no Conjunction of time were to affect *had*.

I had
thou hadst
he had
we had
you had
they had

Compound of the Imperfect Indicative.

Note III. The imperfect of *venir de*, (to have just or to be just) or of *ne faire que de* (to have but just or to be but just), with an infinitive, is equivalent to a compound of the imperfect, to express, with the first something, which was just past, and with the second, something which was but just past.

I had
thou hadst
he had
we had
you had
they had

Compound of the Future Indicative.

Note IV. Events which are mentioned as *possibly* or *probably* to have taken place are elegantly rendered by this compound tense, instead of the preterite or compound of the present indicative.

I shall or will have
thou shalt or wilt
he shall or will have
we shall or will have
you shall or will have
they shall or will have

Compound of the Conditional Indicative.

Note V. After a supposition made with *if*, the present is to be used instead of the future, and the imperfect instead of the conditional; therefore we must, after the same, use the compound of the present instead of the compound of the future, and the compound of the imperfect instead of the compound of the conditional.

I should or would have
thou shouldst or wouldest have
he should or would have
we should or would have
you should or would have
they should or would have

Compound of the Present (or Future) Subjunctive.

Note VI. The present subjunctive of *pouvoir*, used in an interrogative form, serves to express *may* in imprecations or wishes, as in: *May your mother live to see her children settled!* — *Puisse votre mère, or votre mère puisse-t-elle, voir ses enfans établis!* Now, when *have*, followed by a Participle past, comes after *may*, we still express *may* by the present subjunctive, rendering *have* by *avoir*; and the next Verb by the Participle past, as in English.

I may have, shall have, &c.
thou mayest have, &c.
he may have, &c.
we may have, &c.
you may have, &c.
they may have, &c.

Compound of the Preterite (Imperfect or Conditional) Subjunctive.

Note VII. The compound of the preterite subjunctive may at any time be used instead of the compound of the conditional. Nay, it may be used instead of the compound of the imperfect, affected by the particle of supposition, *if*.

I might have, should have, I had, &c.
thou mightest have, &c.
he might have, &c.
we might have, &c.
you might have, &c.
they might have, &c.

With the Participle past of a Verb neither Reflective nor Reciprocal, nor expressing neutrally a condition or a change of condition.

avoir or
ayant or
eu

j'ai or
tu as
il a
nous avons
vous avez
ils ont

j'eus or
tu eus
il eut
nous eûmes
vous eûtes
ils eurent

j'avais or
tu avais
il avait
nous avions
vous aviez
ils avaient

j'aurai or
tu auras
il aura
nous aurons
vous aurez
ils auront

j'aurais or
tu aurais
il aurait
nous aurions
vous auriez
ils auraient

j'aie or
tu aies
il ait
nous ayons
vous ayez
ils aient

j'eusse or
tu eusses
il eût
nous eussions
vous eussiez
ils eussent

être or
étant or
été

Je suis or
tu es
il est
nous sommes
vous êtes
ils sont

je fus or
tu fus
il fut
nous fûmes
vous fûtes
ils furent

j'étais or
tu étais
il était
nous étions
vous étiez
ils étaient

je serai or
tu seras
il sera
nous serons
vous serez
ils seront

je serois or
tu serois
il seroit
nous serions
vous seriez
ils seroient

je sois or
tu sois
il soit
nous soyons
vous soyez
ils soient

je fusse or
tu fusses
il fût
nous fussions
vous fussiez
ils fussent

which means also
I am, &c.

which means also
I was, &c.

which means also
I was, &c.

which means also
I shall be, &c.

which means also
I should be, &c.

which means also
I may be, &c.

which means also
I might be, &c.

With the Participle past of a Verb used either Reflectively or Reciprocally.

s'être, m'être, &c.
s'étant, m'étant,
Wanting

Je me suis
tu t'es
il s'est
nous nous sommes
vous vous êtes
ils se sont

je me fus
tu te fus
il se fut
nous nous fûmes
vous vous fûtes
ils se furent

je m'étais
tu t'étais
il s'était
nous nous étions
vous vous étiez
ils s'étaient

je me serai
tu te seras
il se sera
nous nous serons
vous vous serez
ils se seront

je me serois
tu te serois
il se seroit
nous nous serions
vous vous seriez
ils se seroient

je me sois
tu te sois
il se soit
nous nous soyons
vous vous soyez
ils se soient

je me fusse
tu te fusses
il se fût
nous nous fussions
vous vous fussiez
ils se fussent

INFINITIVE MOOD.

The *Infinitive*, or its *compound*, is to be used, instead of the *Participle present*, or its *compound*, after the French Prepositions *à* (to, in, &c.), *pour* (for, in order to, &c.), *de* (of, from, &c.), *après* (after), *sans* (without), *par* (serving to express *with*, *by*, or *in*, governed by a Verb denoting *to begin*, *to end*, or *to mean*), and *entre* (serving to express *between*, in speaking of difference betwixt actions); as also after any compound Preposition ending in *à* or *de*. (r)

Why do you go out *without asking leave*?—D'où vient que vous sortez *sans demander permission*?

He had *begun with threatening me*.—Il avoit *commencé par me menacer*.

Note I. An *Infinitive*, being the *nominative of a following Verb* which expresses the result of the event pointed to by that infinitive, may generally be used without any Preposition before it; as well as when, coming in the form of an *accusative case* after a tense of *être*, it serves to explain the result of some other event.

To *write by candle-light must*, says he, hurt people's eyes.—Ecrire à la chandelle, doit, dit-il, nuire à la vue.

To *neglect improving ourselves while we are young*, is to *expose ourselves* to be block-heads all our lives.—Négliger de s'instruire dans sa jeunesse, c'est s'exposer à être un sot toute sa vie.

Note II. An *Infinitive*, depending upon an expression which may govern a Noun, denoting things, in the *dative case* (that is, with the Preposition *à*), is generally to be preceded by *à*, if it stands instead of the Noun denoting things. (2)

He *attaches himself to pleasing her*.—Il s'attache à lui plaire.

You will be *condemned to return the money*.—Vous serez condamné à rendre l'argent.

Note III. An *Infinitive*, coming in answer to the question *why*, or *what for*, or *for what reason*, is generally to be preceded by *pour*; as also after any word implying *excess* or *sufficiency*, provided the sentence points to *capability* or *incapability*.

I did

(1) Such as *jusqu'à* (as far as to, even to), *sous à* (reserving the right of), *de façon à*, or *de manière à* (so as to), *en sorte de* (so as to), *avant de*, or *avant que de* (before), *afin de* (in order to), *à dessein de* (with a design to), *de crainte de*, or *de peur de* (for fear of), *à moins de* (unless by), *excepté de*, *bormin de*, *bors de*, *sinon de*, *si ce n'est de*, &c. (except to), *au lieu de* (instead of), *faut de* (for want of), *à force de* (by dint of), *le moyen de* (how can one, where is the possibility of), &c.

I will do it *before I go to bed*.—Je le ferai avant que de m'aller coucher.

(2) *A* may be used with the infinitive, to express the extent of the qualification of an individual; as in, Vous êtes un homme à craindre (You are a man whom one ought to dread); c'est un procès à ne jamais finir (it is a law-suit never to be ended).

A, before an infinitive apparently active in French, often points to a passive meaning. Whenever the Noun or Pronoun, which would be the accusative of the infinitive if it were converted into an active expression, is to be placed before another Verb as its nominative, or after another Verb as its oblique case, with or without a Preposition, that infinitive may be preceded by the passive particle *à*.

That is more difficult to do (or to be done) than you are aware of.—Cela est plus difficile à faire que vous ne vous l'imaginerez.

I have

I did it *to please you*.—Je l'ai fait pour vous plaire (or, Afin de vous plaire, in order to please you).

He is not rich enough *to marry her*.—Il n'est pas assez riche pour l'épouser.

He is very weak *to ride on horse-back*.—Il est bien foible pour monter à cheval.

Note IV. An *Infinitive*, standing instead of a *genitive* or *ablative*, and even instead of an *accusative case*, is generally to be preceded by *de*. (3)

I long *to have the pleasure of embracing you*.—Il me tarde d'avoir le plaisir de vous embrasser.

He will prevent you *from coming*.—Il vous empêchera de venir.

Do you *refuse to do it*?—Refusez-vous de le faire?

PARTICIPLE PRESENT or ACTIVE, and GERUND.

The *Participle present* is used to form detached phrases expressing the condition, situation, disposition, posture, &c. of the agent, or denoting the reason or foundation for an action (4). It often stands instead of a tense and the Conjunctions *as*, *because*, *though*, &c. but never for a nominative, an accusative, or a case governed by a Preposition.

The *Gerund*, which is invariable, and merely the *Participle present* with *en* (by, with, in, on, upon, &c.) prefixed to it, except in the compound, serves also to form detached or incidental phrases; but it expresses the *circumstances* of an action, pointing out either the time *when* it happens, or the manner *in which* it may take place, or the means *used* to make it happen. (5)

Now Eugenia, *pulling her purse from her pocket*, put it on her lap, that she might take out a guinea. Afterwards, *as she feared she should make too much noise by reckoning the money*, she stopped, and casting her eyes on the old man, she looked at him with tender feeling.—Alors Eugénie, tirant sa bourse de sa poche, la mit sur ses genoux pour y prendre les dix louis. Ensuite, craignant de faire trop de bruit en comptant

I have *two letters to write* (or to be written, or that must be written).—J'ai deux lettres à écrire.

(3) Except after those Verbs which imply *to learn*, *teach*, or *study* (how to do a thing), those which denote *employment* or *occupation*, and those with which we express what time the doing of a thing will require; these exceptions requiring *à* before the infinitive governed by them.

Show me *how to make this letter properly*.—Montrez-moi à bien faire cette lettre.

Who taught you *to dance* in that manner?—Qui est-ce qui vous a enseigné à danser de la sorte?

(4) The *Participle present* is invariable; except when it is a *verbal Adjective*; that is, when it does not denote properly an action, but is merely used to qualify a Noun or Pronoun: as in, she is a charming girl, c'est une charmante.

The *Participle present* should stand, in French, neither for a nominative nor for an accusative: it cannot be governed by any other Preposition than *en*, which makes it then a *Gerund*: nor can we use a possessive or demonstrative Adjective, or an Article, before it.

(5) The transition from the *Participle present* to the *Gerund* is very nice: however, when, to an English *Participle present*, you can, with sense, annex *at the same time*, the *Gerund* may be used in French.

comptant l'argent, elle s'arrêta, & jetant les yeux sur le vieillard, elle le regarda avec attendrissement.

He told me so as he set out.—Il me l'a dit en partant.

You will cure your dog by rubbing him with oil.—Vous guérirez votre chien en le frottant d'huile.

Blandford enriched himself in doing (while he did, or at the same time that he did) his duty.—Blandford s'enrichit en faisant son devoir.

PARTICIPLE PAST or PASSIVE.

The *Participle past* or *passive* is generally preceded by some part of the auxiliary *avoir* or *s'être* (to have); or by some part of the auxiliary *être*, either expressed or understood.

Note I. When a *Participle past* is preceded by a tense of *avoir*, it is invariable; unless, governing an accusative case, this accusative, or any representative of it except *en*, is used so as to precede it; in which case, the *Participle past* is to be made of the same gender and number with that preceding accusative.

I had received the two letters you had written to me.—J'avais reçu les deux lettres que vous m'aviez écrites.

Note II. The *Participle past* of a reflexive or reciprocal Verb (whose compound tenses are always formed with *s'être* instead of *avoir*) is to agree in gender and number with the agent or nominative, because it governs it in the accusative to mark the reflection or reciprocity. If however the Verb should prove to govern an accusative case different from the agent, that Pronoun which denotes the reflection or reciprocity being no longer in the accusative, the *Participle* cannot be made to agree with the agent, but is to be dealt with as when it is preceded by *avoir*. (See Note I.)

They have praised each other.—Ils se sont loués (m.). Elles se sont louées (f.).

They have sent each other several letters.—Ils se sont envoyés plusieurs lettres.

I am reading the letters which they have sent each other.—Je lis les lettres qu'ils se sont envoyées.

The *Participle past* or *passive*, either preceded by some part of *être* or some equivalent to it, or having some part of *être* understood before it, becomes a kind of Adjective, to agree, in gender and number, with that Noun or Pronoun whose condition or situation we mean to describe. (1)

My sister is arrived.—Ma sœur est arrivée.

The daughters appear to me too much affected.—Les filles me paroissent trop affectées.

INDICATIVE

(1) The pupil should, as often as he can, convert the passive Verbs into active ones. If no acting person is found in the sentence to become the agent of the Verb to be used active (somebody, one, people, they, we, &c.) may be used to stand, indeterminately, for the agent. However, if a Noun, denoting things, is the nominative of an English passive tense, the French, will, if possible, give the Verb a reflexive form; or at least use *on* or *l'on*, making the Verb active.

The prime minister and his secretary had been warned of it.—On en avait averti le premier ministre & son secrétaire.

INDICATIVE MOOD.

The *Indicative* generally serves to express events in which the speaker is positive, or at least, which appear to him so probable, that he entertains no doubt concerning them, and which therefore he declares as facts either present, past, or future.

He knows that you are here.—Il sait que vous êtes ici.

He does not know that you are here.—Il ne sait pas que vous êtes ici.

Does he know that you are here?—Sait-il que vous êtes ici?

Does he not know that you are here?—Ne sait-il pas que vous êtes ici?

also rendered by the indicative, because questioning Verbs are always to be in that mood.

You are here, he knows, and he does not know, are facts with respect to the speaker. Does he know, and does he not know, are also rendered by the indicative, because questioning Verbs are always to be in that mood.

Note I. A Verb is to be preceded by *ne* when the run of the sentence is negative, and then *pas*, or *point* (a stronger negation than *pas*) is generally added to the Verb, placing it before the Verb, if in the infinitive, and before the *Participle past*, if in a compound tense. But mark, that *pas* or *point* must not be used, if another negative term is to appear in the sentence, such as, *ni*, *aucun*, *aucunement*, *nul*, *nullement*, *jamais* (or *de la vie*, *de ma vie*, *de mes jours*, &c.), *guère*, *qui que ce soit* or *personne*, *quoi que ce soit*, or *rien* (or *brin*, *goutte*, *mot*), *quelconque*, *plus* (denoting cessation), and *que* (denoting restriction).

I have not told it him.—Je ne le lui ai pas dit. (2)

I shall write neither to him nor to her.—Je n'écirai ni à lui ni à elle.

You should not speak of it to any body whatever.—Vous n'en devriez parler à qui que ce fût, or à personne.

I speak only of your sister.—Je ne parle que de votre sœur.

Note II. When a question is asked, and the agent of the Verb is a Pronoun, we generally place this Pronoun after the Verb, prefixing a hyphen (-) to the same: but observe, that if *il*, *ils*, *elle*, *elles*, *on*, are to come after a Verb ending with a vowel, we use a *t* between two hyphens (-t-) before those Pronouns. Now, if the question is asked about a Noun, or any part of a sentence, to be the agent of the questioning Verb, we generally place the Noun or its equivalent (such as a relative or substantive Adjective) before the Verb, using redundantly *il* or *ils*, *elle* or *elles*, after the Verb, as the characteristic of the interrogation. If we use *Est-ce que*, the agent is simply before the Verb.

Do I pronounce properly?—Prononcé-je (or, *Est-ce que je prononce*) comme il faut?

Has one ever seen any thing like it?—A-t-on jamais rien vu de semblable?

Will your brother come?—Votre frère viendra-t-il? or, *Est-ce que votre frère viendra?*

Does that interest you?—Cela vous intéresse-t-il? or, *Est-ce que cela vous intéresse?*

SUBJUNCTIVE

We were talking of things which are seldom seen here.—Nous parlions de choses qui se voient (or *que l'on voit*) rarement ici.

(2) After *n'oser*, *ne cesser*, *ne bouger*, *n'avoir garde*, and *ne pouvoir*, we may suppress *pas* or *point*; as also after *Je ne saurois*, &c. used instead of *je ne peux*, &c. and after *ne savoir*, pointing to uncertainty; as in: I dare not speak to him about it.—Je n'ose lui en parler. I know not what to say to them.—Je ne sais que leur dire. We cannot give it her.—Nous ne pouvions le lui donner, &c.

We may say: *Je ne sache* (instead of *je ne connois*) to express I know not, before *rien*, *personne*, *aucun*, *nul*, &c. as in, I know nothing more grievous than that.—Je ne sache rien de plus fâcheux que cela.

SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD.

First. The *Subjunctive* generally serves to express an event in which the speaker is not positive, but rather dubious, though he may wish for it, fear it, advise it or bid it. Secondly. The *subjunctive* may also serve to express events, which, with respect to the speaker, are rather precarious, and merely depending upon some expression which affects the Verb with *que*, and implies fear, wish, or some stipulation or provision of condition. (1) Thirdly. The *subjunctive* may also be used after expressions implying the satisfaction or dissatisfaction we receive, or should receive, from an event; the approbation or blame we pass upon it; and our regret or surprise at its taking place. But observe, that in this last division we may use *de ce que*, with the *indicative*, instead of *que* with the *subjunctive*, or of *de* with the *infinitive*.

I question whether he will come.—Je doute qu'il vienne, or s'il viendra.

I will buy that book, provided you promise me to read it.—J'achèterai ce livre, pourvu que vous me promettiez de le lire.

It is possible that he may be wrong.—Il est possible (or, Il se peut) qu'il ait tort.

It is just that you should reward him.—Il est juste que vous le récompensiez.

It is strange that they should be angry with you.—Il est étrange qu'ils soient fâchés contre vous.

I am surprised that he has written to you.—Je suis surpris qu'il vous ait écrit (or, de ce qu'il vous a écrit).

Note I. The *relative conjunctive Pronouns*, coming after a Verb, require that which they fall upon to be in the *subjunctive*, when they serve to explain what qualifications are required from, or expected to be found in, the antecedent; as also when, in negative sentences, or in such interrogative sentences as point to a negative meaning, the person who speaks intimates that the qualifications are not to be found any where.

I want a horse that will go well.—Je veux un cheval qui aille bien.

Is there any body that can call it in question?—Y a-t-il personne qui puisse en douter?

I know not any body who can do it.—Je ne sache personne qui puisse le faire.

Note II. The *relative conjunctive Pronouns*, as well as the *Conjunction que*, have this peculiarity, that, when a sentence (which conveys altogether an idea of affirmation) has been begun in a negative sense, this negative sense may be destroyed, and converted into an affirmative one, by using *ne* without *pas*, before the Verb they fall upon, if not negative of itself, which Verb is to be in the *subjunctive*.

I have

(1) The *Subjunctive* is to be used after any *Conjunction* ending in *que*, when the event is mentioned as something merely feared or wished for, or as a stipulation or provision of condition; hence it comes in after

Afin que	or pour que	-	-	to the end that, in order that
Pourvu que	-	-	-	provided
Pour peu que	-	-	-	if.. in the least
Quoique	Bien que, Encore que	-	-	although, though
En attendant que	-	-	-	waiting till
Plût (or Plaise) à Dieu (or au ciel) que	-	-	-	would to God (or heaven) that
Dieu veuille que, Fasse le ciel que	-	-	-	God grant that
À Dieu ne plaise que	-	-	-	God forbid that

The

I point out one house which he does not receive (or but he receives) the rent of.—Je n'ai point de maison dont il ne reçoive la rente.

Has he a book that I have not read?—Avez-vous un livre que je n'ai lu?

I do not doubt but he will come.—Je ne doute pas qu'il ne vienne.

I do not say but that colonies may succeed sometimes.—Je ne dis pas que les colonies ne réussissent quelquefois.

Note III. The Verbs which imply fear, or which may receive the *Conjunction lest* after them, require that, before the Verb they govern in the *subjunctive*, we should use *ne*, when they come in affirmatively, or both interrogatively and negatively at the same time.

I fear that he will come.—Je crains qu'il ne vienne.

Do you not fear that he will come?—Ne craignez-vous pas qu'il ne vienne? (2)

Note IV. Many Verbs and expressions which, when they are used affirmatively, do not govern the *subjunctive*, will require it when they come in either negatively without an interrogation, or interrogatively without a negation, provided the effect or event of the second Verb becomes doubtful, contingent or precarious. For instance:

By *savoir-vous que la paix est faite?* I intimate that I know that peace is made, and merely ask whether you know it also.

But by *savoir-vous que la paix soit faite?* I intimate that I do not know that peace is made, and ask whether you can tell me that it is made.

The *imperative* is used to bid or enjoin, to forbid, entreat, advise, or exhort, and *confer* *seigneur*; with a kind of threat if the thing should, or should not, take place; and of *wish* that it may, or may not, take place: but without the help of a *conj.* of itself, the command, &c. for if such a Verb were to be used, the Verb then be either in the *subjunctive* mood with *que*, or in the *infinitive* with *de*.

I dare.—Faites-le, si vous osez.

First.—Faisons ceci premièrement.

Ask?—To go.—Well, let them go.—Que demandent-ils?—A s'en aller. Ils s'en aillent.

OBSERVATIONS

ne alternate soit que...ou que	-	-	whether...or
Loin que, Bien loin que	-	-	far from
En cas que, Au cas que, Supposé que, &c.	-	-	in case that, suppose, &c.
Non que, Non pas que, Ce n'est pas que, &c.	-	-	not that, &c.

(2) *De peur que*, or *de peur que* (for fear, or lest), and *à moins que* (unless), always require the *subjunctive* with *ne*; as also *que*, standing, after a negative expression, instead of *avant que* (before), *jusqu'à ce que* (till), *sans que* (without), *à moins que* (unless); but *avant que*, *jusqu'à ce que*, *sans que*, require themselves merely the *subjunctive* after them. I will not begin it before I have seen you.—Je ne le commencerai pas que je ne vous aie vu (or *avant que* je vous aie vu).

OBSERVATIONS UPON VERBS.

I. Two Verbs seldom come together in French, depending one upon the other, without one of them being used in the infinitive, or linked to the other by a Conjunction or conjunctive Pronoun, often left understood in English. Now, if any Noun or pronoun, not indeterminate, happens in English to represent several cases, conjunctive pronouns are generally used, in French, to express every case but the first.

The book *you were so good as to send me*, is the best I ever read.—Le livre *que vous avez eu la bonté de m'envoyer*, est le meilleur que j'ai jamais lu.

Could I not perhaps remove those suspicions *which you think are without foundation*? —Ne pourrais-je point guérir ces soupçons *que vous pensez être* (or *qui sont*, *vous le pensez*) sans fondement?

This is a thing *which I have been told he had done several times*.—C'est une chose *qu'on m'a dit qu'il avoit faite plusieurs fois*.

II. When two Verbs come together, and they prove to have one and the same agent, (or its representative), we generally use the second in the infinitive (1). When, two Verbs happening in a sentence, the event of one depends upon, or is the effect of, the other, that which is affected by a conjunction expressed or understood in English, is generally rendered in French by the infinitive, the Conjunction being converted, if possible, into a Preposition.

I thought I had seen him pass.—Je croyois l'avoir vu passer; instead of *je l'avois vu passer*.

You will come again and see me, before you go into the country.—Vous viendrez encore me voir, avant que d'aller à la campagne, instead of *avant que vous alliez à la campagne*.

III. When a Verb is to be linked (either by the Conjunction *que*, or by the conjunctive Pronoun) to a preceding declaratory expression, the natural tense is liable to variations.—For instance, when the declaratory expression is in the present, nor in the future, nor in the imperative, the *imperfect* is generally used, instead of the present, the compound of the imperfect generally comes in instead of the present, or instead of the preterite; and as the conditional is generally used in the future, so the compound of the conditional generally comes in instead of the future.

She told me that your brother would come to-morrow.—Elle m'a dit que votre frère viendrait demain; instead of, *Votre frère viendra demain, m'a-t-elle dit qu'il viendrait* (or *viendra*); instead of, *Votre frère viendra demain, m'a-t-elle dit qu'il viendrait* (or *viendra*).

(1) When the agent of the second Verb can be brought to be an oblique case to the first, we often may use that second Verb in the infinitive.

I shall prevent his coming (or I shall prevent him from coming, or I shall prevent him from coming).—Je l'empêcherai de venir, or J'empêcherai qu'il ne vienne.

I advise you not to do it.—Je vous conseille de ne pas le faire (or *de ne le pas faire*).

I have heard that his aunt was now at Paris.—J'ai appris que sa tante étoit maintenant à Paris; instead of, *Sa tante est maintenant à Paris, à ce que j'ai appris* (His aunt is now at Paris, by what I have heard).

He replied that she would have been there before we were.—Il répliqua qu'elle y auroit été avant que nous y fussions; instead of, *Elle y aura été, répliqua-t-il, avant que vous y soyez* (she will have been there, replied he, before you are).

IV. When we either inquire or declare how long progressive situations have already lasted, we use the present instead of its compound, and the imperfect instead of its compound.

How long has he been dead?—These twelve months. Combien y a-t-il qu'il est mort?—Il y a un an; or, Depuis quand est-il mort?—Depuis un an.

She has been learning French for these six months.—Il y a six mois qu'elle apprend le François; or, Elle apprend le François depuis six mois.

Have I told you how long I had been here?—Vous ai-je dit combien il y avoit que j'étois ici? or, Vous ai-je dit depuis quand j'étois ici?

V. When events which prove to be the consequence of each other are mentioned in an enumerating manner, and supposed to have happened all together, or at least one after the other, they are every one to be in the same tense as the first; unless some of them were strongly determined to be prior to the others; as, in this circumstance, the prior events are to be in the compound of that tense which the subsequent ones are to be expressed by. Only remember, that we are to use the compound of the imperfect, instead of the compound of the preterite, when the prior action is not affected by *after*, or *as soon as*, or some equivalent to it; because the compound of the imperfect, as well as the simple imperfect, denotes a kind of situation of things which is prior to some past event.

Cæsar came, saw, and conquered.—César vint, vit, & conquit.

You will not be the first bear that women have tamed. (2)—Vous ne serez pas le premier ours que les femmes auront apprivoisé. (Marmontel).

Your letter came to me yesterday after I had sent you mine.—Votre lettre me parvint hier après que je vous eus envoyé la mienne.

I had sent you my letter, when yours came to me yesterday.—Je vous avois envoyé ma lettre, quand la vôtre me parvint hier.

We shall go and take a little walk after you have done your task.—Nous irons faire un petit tour de promenade après que vous aurez fait votre tâche.

(2) Women have tamed bears being mentioned here as a thing somewhat prior to your being a bear; Marmontel has expressed *have tamed* by the compound of the future, to agree with *you will not be*, which is in the simple future. But if the sentence had been, *You are not the first bear that women tamed*, the prior action *tamed* should be rendered by the compound of the present, to agree with *you are not*, which is in the simple present. Hence we should then say: *Vous n'êtes pas le premier ours que les femmes ont apprivoisé*.

THE END.

